

Well soon the Maize will be coming of the fields, wonder what wonders are going to be found, Metal Detecting is an amazing hobby, where else can you find pieces of modern archaeology, (ring pulls, beer cans, foil pie dishes), what a lot of every day flotsam, then you have an amazing signal, what can it be, oh! Lead, but lead can be dated, did you know this, the Romans did hence why they mined heavily in Charterhouse and the Mendips, they would melt the lead then cream off the silver content.

Have you any snippets of information you be willing to share.

Trowbridge club held a charity day for their members and a few guests on Sunday 15th of October, where they raised over £1,000 pounds for the local church roof. It was a great day, not dampened by a heavy rain shower. Many good finds came up which we hope will all be recorded on PAS. A great BBQ was available at a small cost to visitors, which I believe went down well. A full report will be available on our Web site. After cooking the BBQ lunch, I managed a hours detecting which resulted in three Roman Grots and a nice small silver buckle.
Dave Crisp



Dave the Chef by Tina

Best find of the year

A competition is going to be run for the best find of the year, within the Region. One Entry per club and it can be a coin, an artefact, or a hoard. It must have been found in the year 2016, and have been recorded by PAS. Each club chairman is responsible for ensuring all conditions are met and sending a photo of the item to the next meeting (February 2017). There will be a prize of a £25 voucher to the winner. Could I remind everybody that found any interesting items on the Trowbridge day out at Chalfield to record them with Richard from PAS, ASAP please. Dave Crisp



Dave's Noble

Duncan's Bench

One of the founder members of the Trowbridge and District Club was Duncan Carrier. He passed away in 2014 and in his memory the club purchased a bench and with permission of the land owner it was sited at one of the club farms that he had always enjoyed detecting at. In October 2014 the club had a presentation attended by Duncan's two daughters.

Duncan loved hammered coins, and the club each year at the AGM now presents a trophy in his memory to the person who is judged in finding the best hammered coin during the year. Last year this went to Dave Crisp for finding a beautiful gold Nobel coin. Dave Rees



Duncan's daughters and some club members

The Western Region Newsletter

Hello to all our regional clubs

First of all thought it would be nice to introduce our selves, my name is Lorraine Stanley and my husband is Andy Stanley. We have been detecting for 25 yrs, and both belong to WHRADA, Weston metal detecting club, and are chairman and secretary to ISCHEM club.

Dave Crisp and Dave Rees have both numerous years of detecting between them, they both belong to the Trowbridge club, Dave Rees is the Chairman and Dave Crisp is the NCMD rep.

Keith Arnold is a valued member of the SHRADS metal detecting club, he is also the NCMD rep for the club, Keith has been detecting for many years.

Not many members know who the clubs are in our region, so the list is as follows;

Wyvern Swindon
SAS Swindon
Forest of Dean West Gloucestershire
Hucclecote Gloucestershire
Shrads South Gloucestershire
Gwent Cwmbran
WHRADA Weston Super Mare North Somerset
ISCHEM North Somerset
Newton Abbott South Devon
Chippenham and District Wiltshire
Trowbridge and District Wiltshire

As you can see we are lucky to have such a great area we all cover.

We are looking for a new Western Region badge to go into this space, can you help?

There is a £10 gift voucher to the winner picked by the committee next year.

See web site for details

Chairman - Dave Crisp
Vice Chairman - Dave Rees
Treasurer - Andy & Lorraine Stanley
Secretary - Keith Arnold
Editor - Lorraine Stanley

A rallying cry

After last week's October meeting we are very hopeful of running a Regional charity Rally next year (2017). The committee are confident that we can come up with a good site, with the space and facilities that are needed. This site was offered by one of our newer clubs, and hopefully will be ok with the landowner. I am personally looking forward to have a Rally day / days which will be fun as well as a good days detecting. As soon as we have any details we will let you know. DC

Dave Crisp

One of the story's which has recently been in the local paper for Weston S Mare, is from a senior member of the Weston S Mare club, Jerry Morris was searching on one of his permissions when he found a small harness makers brass. It had the name Louch, Maker, Weston S Mare.

Nothing too exceptional, but a find with local connections and worthy of further research, However the story was worth telling.

Charles Alexander Louch was a passenger aboard the ill-fated Titanic. Unfortunately he did not survive, however his wife was saved by the Carpathia. The find created local news and it is hoped that a museum may show some interest in this item.

1st archaeologist looking at pot:
"it looks Pre Colombian to me."

2nd archaeologist:
"No; I'm sure it's Maxwell House."

A New horse in the stable

Older members of the Region will have been following the long Saga, of our missing bronze horse which was misplaced quite a few years ago. After extensive enquires, we gave it up as lost and decided to get another. Lorraine and Andy took this on and sourced this modern version from the internet. Andy then hand made the excellent wooden plinth for it, and had an inscribed plaque done. I am assured that we are going to keep this one on a long leash. It will be used in some way at our Regional rally next year. Dave Crisp



WHRADA Club Charity Rally and Fun Day Report

On the 28th of August the Weston S Mare club held its annual rally with a bbq, games and token hunt.

Held on one of their club permissions, the day was organised by Mike and Carol Joyce who, as usual had done an amazing job with buried tokens, lots of prizes, coffee and drinks and a BBQ.

The weather unfortunately was contrary to the forecast, and drizzled most of the day. However, undaunted, the club managed to catch the few breaks in the weather for lunch and the prize giving.

There were hundreds of different various buried Tokens with various values. The field was perfect for a Token hunt as it turns up nothing else.

I think everyone had at least one prize and best

of all we collected circa £300 for the Children's Hospice South West.

Two of our members won forfeits, and wore the required fancy dress for the tournament.

The club cannot thank Carol and Mike enough for their amazing efforts for the rally and we all had an enjoyable day.

Did you hear the one about the meeting of 10 archaeologists in the BM? When they arrived the room was in darkness as the bulb had blown.

So: how many archaeologists does it take to change a light bulb?

Answer: one: the other nine are too busy writing theses and dissertations on how long the bulb's been dead. Ha Ha

XP Deus Rally Report

The International XP Rally was held on the 17/18th of Sept. near Buford in Oxfordshire.

Many detectorists travelled from Europe for this rally, I spoke to some from Italy, Denmark, Germany, and Holland, Latvia and of course there was also large French contingent.

The main arena had plenty to do, with many traders, and of course all the specialist XP makers and dealers, The FLO were present. Food and drink stalls provided sustenance for both campers and day visitors. The raffle was of course a big draw with Ten Deus machines and their pointers as prizes. The weather held out apart from some rain on the Saturday afternoon. There was a huge amount of land, 30 plus fields, mainly stubble but some rolled and other disked as well as pasture.

On the Saturday, most people I spoke to had done a lot of walking with not much to show for it. Sunday which had fields closer to the village appeared to be more productive. Personally I always think that a good find is a bonus, Rallies are good social events with an opportunity to detect in different areas.

The only comment is that much of the land was too far for the less able to get to, detect on and return. There was plenty of safe field parking nearer the Sunday fields that would have allowed the elderly and others to enjoy the detecting more.

Overall a good rally.



Future Event

One of the events that we are hoping to arrange for the Region is a trip to London to do some mud-larking on the Thames Foreshore. As a club (Trowbridge) we did this, two years ago and everybody enjoyed themselves.

Robin Hatt Competition

The items selected for the Robin Hatt Trophy are;

- 1. COIN = King Aldfrith of Northumbria circa 705 Ischem Club (A rare coin found in the South West)
Came 2nd in Coin Cateogry
- 2. HOARD = 6 Silver Hammered Coins of Elizabeth 1st. Trowbridge Club
Came 2nd in Hoard Cateogry

We need your help

As you will have seen on the front page, we are looking for a new Region logo which could be used later as a badge. This is open to all members of the Region, and can be passed on to your club representative, or direct to one of the regions officers. A small prize of a £10 voucher will be given to the best entry. Please send in your ideas (mocked up) before our next meeting in February 2017. Dave Crisp.

I asked Dave Crisp to write a few words about the wonderful Hoard he found.

Not From The Frome Hoard Again: No!

I have been asked to write a short bit about finding my hoard; but everybody knows about the largest single hoard of Roman Coins ever found; 52,000 + coins in a pot of a large barrel; 160kgs of Bronze Radiate coins, with just 5 unique silver Denarii thrown in, A hoard that was so large that it put my name into Google and Wikipedia, and put me on the front pages of newspapers, both here and around the world.

But that story's out there, in our Treasure Hunting magazine, newspapers, internet and even in my book (All you need to know to get started). So I thought a bit about our hero of the hoard, no not me; the Emperor Carausius would be more interesting as his

CV reads like a work of fiction. Army military man, seaman, captain, pirate, Emperor. The lost British Emperor in academic circles; a man born across the channel on the Belgium border who worked his way up through the ranks of the Roman Army, ending up as a general commanding all the Roman Fleet. He had the job of capturing the nasty Saxons who believed it was their right to sail across and plunder our shores. For a time this was great; plenty of killing Saxons, but there was no bonus in it for himself or his troops. However, Carausius had a plan; why not allow them to go across first and get them on the way back, that way he still got to kill Saxons, and get to keep all the loot for himself and his merry men. For a time this worked a treat, till Maximian (Emperor in Rome) heard about it and got a bit annoyed as he wasn't getting his share.

Anyway, in 286CE, Carausius knew his time was coming to an end, and decided to sail to Britain with all his troops and declare himself Emperor of Britain, and a bit of the French coast he could hold on to. The Romans were very annoyed about this, but couldn't do much about it as they didn't have any boats left. So Carausius lasted as emperor for about seven years, till one morning in 293AD he didn't wake. His finance minister Allectus, had decided his CV was better, and he could do the job better, Allectus himself only lasted for two years, and then the Roman Empire took us back into the fold.

This all sounds very modern don't you think? His Treasury minister, and the European Union, Will we end up the same? Time will tell.

There is over 700 Radiates of Carausius in the Frome Hoard (which is also a record number of his coins found together) but no coins of Allectus at all. This dates the burial of the hoard to 292 or early 293AD which made the day for Sam Moorhead (Roman and Iron Age coin expert in the British Museum) as he was writing a catalogue on Carausius coinage (which he assures me he has nearly finished).

That was a great day for me back in 2010, when I got that signal from my Mine-lab explorer 11. It changed my life and one signal could do the same for you.

TV Guide

I thought the BBC series 'Detectorist's was quite funny in places but the bit about the showing a whole table full of his ring pull collection was a bit OTT, as there are not many pull rings out there, are there???